

Washington, D.C - Today, leaders of the **New Democrat Coalition**, chaired by **Congressman Joseph Crowley**

(NY-07), released the following statement regarding President Obama's Fiscal Year 2012 budget:

"We appreciate President Obama's efforts to design a budget that balances the need to cut spending without stifling our nation's economic recovery. Now more than ever we need to focus on smart programs that foster long-term economic growth and support private sector-led job creation. From initiatives that help American businesses sell their goods to customers in other nations, to measures that encourage innovation and prepare our students to compete for jobs in the global economy, the budget we received today begins to make tough choices that will lay a foundation for sustainable economic growth.

"Tackling our budgetary challenges will continue to be a priority for the New Democrats this Congress. We believe that one opportunity for cutting down waste and making government more efficient and effective is through corporate tax reform. Led by our Innovation, Competitiveness and Tax Reform (ICT) Task Force, the New Democrats are prepared to identify common-sense solutions that work for American businesses, workers and families alike, to make our tax code more competitive and encourage investment in the U.S.

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"As we move forward, the New Democrats are committed to working with the Administration and House Leadership to strike the right balance between making our government function in the most, efficient, effective manner with the need to continue to grow our economy, create jobs and help our businesses and workers compete and win in the 21st century, without, as the President said in his State of the Union address, hurting our most vulnerable citizens."

□ *Statement supported by New Dem Leadership Members, led by Chair Representative Joseph Crowley (NY-07), and Vice-Chairs Representative Jim Himes (CT-4), Representative Ron Kind (WI-3), Representative Rick Larsen (WA-2), Representative Allyson Schwartz (PA-13).*□

□ *The New Democrat Coalition is a Coalition of 44 members of the U.S. House of Representatives who are dedicated to the prosperity and security of American families and business. Founded in 1997, the NDC provides Members of Congress with the opportunity to advance a common sense policy agenda focused on empowering the U.S. to grow economically and maintain a vibrant job market, preserving the U.S. standing as the world's leader in innovation and technological advancement, and strengthening our economic and national security. For more information, visit the New Dems website at <http://ndc.crowley.house.gov>.*

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